

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 26, 2007

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 630**

---

**Introduced by Senator Aanestad**

February 22, 2007

---

An act to ~~amend Section 15819.60 of~~ *add Section 15819.70 to the Government Code, relating to veterans, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 630, as amended, Aanestad. Veterans' homes.

*The State Building Construction Act of 1955 authorizes the State Public Works Board to acquire or construct public buildings and to issue revenue bonds, negotiable notes, and negotiable bond anticipation notes to finance that construction. Existing law authorizes the State Public Works Board to issue \$162,000,000 in lease-revenue bonds, notes, or bond anticipation notes pursuant to that law to finance the acquisition, design, construction, establishment, equipping, renovation, or expansion of veterans' homes at Yountville, Barstow, Chula Vista, Lancaster, Saticoy, and West Los Angeles, and in Fresno County and Shasta County, as provided. Existing law continuously appropriates funds derived from the sale of these instruments to the board, on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs, for this purpose.*

*This bill would appropriate \$30,000,000 from the Public Buildings Construction Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs, to finance the acquisition, design, construction, establishment, equipping, renovation, or expansion of the veterans' homes, as specified, and would also authorize the board to issue additional lease-revenue bonds, notes, or bond anticipation notes for that purpose. This bill would appropriate additional funds from the Public Buildings Construction Fund, as*

*specified, to the Department of Veterans Affairs, in order to finance specified projects that are ready to proceed to bid for which there are insufficient funds in the federal appropriation, and would require the federal funds, when they become available and are received, to be used to reimburse any interim financing, as provided.*

*This bill would condition any issuance of bonds or notes for these purposes upon priority 1 placement on the United States Department of Veterans Affairs State Home Grant Program Priority List.*

*This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.*

~~Existing law authorizes the Department of General Services, on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to acquire, design, equip, construct, and establish additional veterans' homes to be located in Lancaster, Saticoy, West Los Angeles, Fresno County, and Shasta County.~~

~~This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to that provision.~~

Vote: ~~majority~~<sup>2/3</sup>. Appropriation: ~~no~~ yes. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1     SECTION 1. Section 15819.70 is added to the Government
- 2     Code, to read:
- 3     15819.70. (a) (1) There is hereby appropriated thirty million
- 4     dollars (\$30,000,000) from the Public Buildings Construction
- 5     Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the acquisition,
- 6     design, construction, establishment, equipping, renovation, or
- 7     expansion of the veterans' homes specified in Section 15819.60.
- 8     (2) The State Public Works board may issue lease-revenue
- 9     bonds, notes, or bond anticipation notes pursuant to Chapter 5
- 10    (commencing with Section 15830) to finance the acquisition,
- 11    design, construction, establishment, equipping, renovation, or
- 12    expansion of the veterans' homes specified in Section 15819.60.
- 13    (3) The Department of Veterans Affairs is authorized and
- 14    directed to execute and deliver any and all leases, contracts,
- 15    agreements, or other documents necessary or advisable to
- 16    consummate the sale of bonds or otherwise effectuate the financing
- 17    of the scheduled projects.

1     ***(b) The amounts specified in subdivision (a) shall be available,***  
2     ***in addition to any federal funds or other state funds available, for***  
3     ***the acquisition, design, construction, establishment, equipping,***  
4     ***renovation, or expansion of the veterans' homes specified in***  
5     ***Section 15819.60.***

6     ***(c) The issuance of bonds or notes under this section is***  
7     ***contingent upon priority 1 placement on the United States***  
8     ***Department of Veterans Affairs State Home Grant Program***  
9     ***Priority List.***

10    ***(d) In anticipation of federal matching share funding available***  
11    ***pursuant to the State Veterans' Home Assistance Improvement Act***  
12    ***of 1977 (38 U.S.C. Sec. 8131 et seq.), the board and the***  
13    ***Department of Veterans Affairs may obtain interim financing for***  
14    ***the project costs authorized in Section 15819.60 from any***  
15    ***appropriate source, including, but not limited to, the Pooled Money***  
16    ***Investment Account pursuant to Sections 16312 and 16313.***

17    ***(e) In the event that any project authorized by Section 15819.60***  
18    ***and given priority 1 status on the United States Department of***  
19    ***Veterans Affairs State Home Grant Program Priority List is ready***  
20    ***to proceed to bid but there are insufficient funds in the federal***  
21    ***appropriation, an amount equal to the anticipated federal grant,***  
22    ***as shown on the most current participation document, shall be***  
23    ***additionally appropriated from the Public Buildings Construction***  
24    ***Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs. As the federal funds***  
25    ***become available and are received, they shall be used to first***  
26    ***reimburse any interim financing, as authorized by subdivision (d),***  
27    ***that are still outstanding for those projects. If no interim financing***  
28    ***is outstanding, the funds shall first be used to redeem or defease***  
29    ***any bonds issued for those projects, and secondly to offset debt***  
30    ***service payments.***

31    ***(f) In the event that the bonds authorized for projects in Section***  
32    ***15819.60 are not sold, the Department of Veterans Affairs shall***  
33    ***commit a sufficient portion of its current support appropriation,***  
34    ***as determined by the Department of Finance, to repay any interim***  
35    ***financing. It is the intent of the Legislature that this commitment***  
36    ***be made until all interim financing is repaid either through the***  
37    ***proceeds from the sale of bonds or from an appropriation.***

38    ***(g) (1) Notwithstanding Section 13340, all funds appropriated***  
39    ***pursuant to this section shall be continuously appropriated to the***

1 Department of Veterans Affairs for the projects authorized by  
2 Section 15819.60.

3 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated pursuant to this section,  
4 the federal matching funds available pursuant to the State  
5 Veterans' Home Assistance Improvement Act of 1977 (38 U.S.C.  
6 Sec. 8131 et seq.) are hereby continuously appropriated to the  
7 Department of Veterans Affairs for the projects authorized by  
8 Section 15819.60.

9 (h) The board shall not itself be deemed a lead or responsible  
10 agency for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act  
11 (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public  
12 Resources Code) for any activities under the State Building  
13 Construction Act of 1955 (commencing with Section 15800). This  
14 subdivision does not exempt any participating agency or  
15 department from the requirements of the California Environmental  
16 Quality Act, and is intended to be declarative of existing law.

17 SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the  
18 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within  
19 the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into  
20 immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

21 In order to equip, design, and construct various veterans' homes  
22 at the earliest possible time, it is necessary that this act take effect  
23 immediately.

24 ~~SECTION 1. Section 15819.60 of the Government Code is~~  
25 ~~amended to read:~~

26 ~~15819.60. (a) The Department of General Services, on behalf~~  
27 ~~of the Department of Veterans Affairs, may acquire, design, equip,~~  
28 ~~construct, and establish additional veterans' homes to be located~~  
29 ~~in Lancaster, Saticoy, West Los Angeles, Fresno County, and~~  
30 ~~Shasta County.~~

31 ~~(b) The Department of General Services, on behalf of the~~  
32 ~~Department of Veterans Affairs, may design, equip, construct, and~~  
33 ~~renovate the veterans' homes at Yountville, Barstow, and Chula~~  
34 ~~Vista, as needed and justified.~~

35 ~~(c) The Department of General Services, on behalf of the~~  
36 ~~Department of Veterans Affairs, may design, equip, construct, and~~  
37 ~~expand the homes proposed to be built at Lancaster, Saticoy, and~~  
38 ~~West Los Angeles, as needed and justified.~~

39 ~~(d) The construction of veterans' homes in Fresno County and~~  
40 ~~Shasta County may not commence until the veterans' homes in~~

1 ~~Lancaster, Saticoy, and West Los Angeles have been completely~~  
2 ~~funded.~~

3 ~~(e) The veterans' homes to be constructed in Fresno County~~  
4 ~~and Shasta County may be built concurrently. However, the~~  
5 ~~construction of the veterans' homes in Redding and Fresno shall~~  
6 ~~be treated as separate public works projects that are subject to~~  
7 ~~separate bids.~~

8 ~~(f) The Department of General Services, on behalf of the~~  
9 ~~Department of Veterans Affairs, may acquire, design, equip,~~  
10 ~~construct, and establish the veterans' homes to be constructed in~~  
11 ~~Fresno and Shasta Counties using the design-build construction~~  
12 ~~procurement process in accordance with Section 14661.~~